Item(s) to Set Public Hearing(s) RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Item No. 24

Subject: Set a public hearing to consider an ordinance amending Chapter 25-2 of the City Code to allow Pet Services use as a permitted use in the Central Business District (CBD) base zoning district. (Suggested date and time: April 23, 2009, 6:00 p.m., Austin City Hall, 301 W. Second Street, Austin, TX).

For More Information: Robert Heil, 974-2330; Sylvia Arzola, 974-6448.

Boards and Commission Action: Recommended by Planning Commission.

This action will set a public hearing to consider an amendment to the City Code to permit Pet Services use in the Central Business District (CBD) base zoning district.

The Pet Services land use is the use of a site for the retail sale of small animals customarily used as household pets, or the provision of veterinary, grooming, or boarding services, totally within a building. This use includes pet stores, small animal clinics, and pet grooming shops, but excludes uses for livestock and large animals. It also excludes the outdoor boarding of animals permitted in the Kennels use. Currently the Pet Services use is a permitted use in neighborhood commercial (LR), community commercial (GR), general commercial services (CS) and downtown mixed use (DMU) base district zoning but is prohibited in central business district (CBD) base district zoning.

As the downtown residential population has increased, there has been increased demand for pet services in the downtown area. Allowing Pet Services as a permitted use in the CBD base district zoning would increase the range of desired services available to downtown residents. The requirement that all activities take place totally within a building would prevent any adverse effects of noise or odor.

The Codes and Ordinances Subcommittee of the Planning Commission and the Planning Commission have recommended approval of this code amendment.